

## NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

# Information Letter

FOR N. C. A. MEMBERS

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### Collection of Green Bean Pack Statistics

In accordance with the request of the Board of Directors at its meeting last May, the Association directed an inquiry to green bean canners asking whether they approve the collection of annual statistics on the pack of green beans, these figures to be compiled and published in the same manner as the statistics on corn, peas, and tomatoes.

Thus far the Association has received replies from canners representing a large proportion of the green bean pack, although in number they are not a majority of the canners of this product. With a very few exceptions, those replying approve the plan to collect the statistics and indicate their intention to cooperate in the work.

A second request has gone out to bean canners this week, and it is hoped that all those who have not yet replied will respond to this request and express their opinion on the plan to collect these statistics.

### Have You a Motion Picture of the Canning Industry?

The Canned Foods Week Committee each year is asked from whom motion pictures of the canning industry may be obtained for use at meetings of retailers, clubs, women's organizations, etc., during Canned Foods Week.

Motion pictures are an excellent method of publicity for the industry, and those having appropriate films can contribute much to the success of the Canned Foods Week campaign by permitting their use. The Committee plans that in all cases the owners of the films shall determine where and to whom the films will be furnished.

Members of the Association having motion picture films that will be available for such purpose, or knowing where they

are available, are earnestly requested to write the Committee at Washington.

#### **Sustains Higher Duty on Whole Pimientos**

Finding in favor of the Government, the Customs Court at New York City on July 14 rendered a decision that pimientos from which the stems have been removed, cored, the skin taken off and packed in tins are dutiable as whole pimientos under the provisions of paragraph 779 of the Act of 1922, at 6 cents a pound.

The "whole pimiento" situation is therefore disposed of in favor of the government and the higher rate of duty sustained, pending the possibility of an appeal by the importers.

#### **Labeling Okra and Tomatoes**

"Okra and tomatoes" is not a proper designation for an article packed with okra and strained tomatoes instead of whole tomatoes, according to an opinion received by the Association from the Bureau of Chemistry.

In asking for an opinion on the subject, the Association suggested that such a product might be labeled "Okra and Tomato Sauce" or "Okra and Tomato Puree." On this point the Bureau stated:

"The use of the designations suggested by you, 'Okra and Tomato Sauce' or 'Okra and Tomato Puree,' would be more nearly descriptive of the actual composition of the product. However, in certain sections of the country, as you know, the name 'Sauce' or 'Puree' implies concentration. Perhaps the most accurate designation for this article and one which would be less likely of misconstruction would be 'Okra and Strained Tomatoes.' It is assumed, of course, that in packing a product of this kind substantial quantities of both ingredients would be present."

#### **Sweet Corn and Snap Bean Acreage**

The Bureau of Agricultural Economics of the U. S. Department of Agriculture on July 19 issued preliminary estimates of acreage of sweet corn and snap beans for manufacture. These preliminary estimates placed the sweet corn acreage for 1926 at 295,130 acres as compared with 370,520 acres in 1925, and 302,790 in 1924. The snap bean acreage is placed at 25,330 acres as compared with 32,090 in 1925 and 25,080 in 1924.

Under the same date, the Bureau issued a statement on

crop conditions, which for the country as a whole and for the crops specified shows the following:

	Condition 1925	July 1 1926
Snap beans .....	82	80
Cabbage for kraut .....	79	84
Sweet corn .....	90	78
Cucumbers for pickles .....	86	76
Tomatoes .....	75	79

#### Vinegar Standards Revised

The Department of Agriculture announced on July 1st, revised standards for vinegar. The revision consists chiefly in the deletion of requirements as to percentages of solids and the phosphoric acid content. The revised text is as follows:

"Wine vinegar, grape vinegar, is the product made by the alcoholic and subsequent acetous fermentations of the juice of grapes, and contains, in one hundred (100) cubic centimeters (20 degrees C.), not less than four (4) grams of acetic acid. "Malt vinegar is the product made by the alcoholic and subsequent acetous fermentations, without distillation of an infusion of barley malt or cereals whose starch has been converted by malt, and contains, in one hundred (100) cubic centimeters (20 degrees C.) not less than four (4) grams of acetic acid."

#### Standards for Milk Products

The Secretary of Agriculture has promulgated for the guidance of officials in the enforcement of the Federal Food and Drugs Act revised and amended definitions and standards for milk and its products adopted by the Food Standard Committee. This committee is composed of three representatives each of the Association of American Dairy, Food and Drug Officials, of the Association of Official Agricultural Chemists and of the United States Department of Agriculture.

The revised standards and definitions include milk, pasteurized milk, homogenized milk, skimmed milk, buttermilk, goat's milk, evaporated milk, sweetened condensed milk, evaporated skimmed milk, sweetened condensed skimmed milk, dried milk and dried skimmed milk. The text of the standards and definitions recommended by the committee for evaporated, sweetened condensed, evaporated skimmed, and sweetened condensed skimmed milk is as follows:

**EVAPORATED MILK** is the product resulting from the evaporation of a considerable portion of the water from milk, or from milk with adjustment, if necessary, of the ratio of fat to non-fat solids by the addition or by the abstraction of cream. It con-

tains not less than seven and eight-tenths per cent (7.8%) of milk fat, nor less than twenty-five and five-tenths per cent (25.5%) of total milk solids; provided, however, that the sum of the percentages of milk fat and total milk solids be not less than thirty-three and seven-tenths (33.7%).

**SWEETENED CONDENSED MILK** is the product resulting from the evaporation of a considerable portion of the water from the whole, fresh, clean, lacteal secretion obtained by the complete milking of one or more healthy cows, properly fed and kept, excluding that obtained within fifteen days before and ten days after calving, to which sugar (sucrose) has been added. It contains not less than twenty-eight per cent (28.0%) of total milk solids, and not less than eight per cent (8.0%) of milk fat.

**EVAPORATED SKIMMED MILK** is the product resulting from the evaporation of a considerable portion of the water from skimmed milk, and contains not less than twenty per cent (20.0%) of milk solids.

**SWEETENED CONDENSED SKIMMED MILK** is the product resulting from the evaporation of a considerable portion of the water from skimmed milk to which sugar (sucrose) has been added. It contains not less than twenty-four per cent (24.0%) of milk solids.

#### Freight Rate Increase in West Denied

The Interstate Commerce Commission has denied the application of the western railroads for a blanket increase of 5 per cent in freight rates. It has also denied the petition of the security holders of northwestern carriers for an additional 15 per cent horizontal increase in rates in Western trunk line territory, and held the earnings of the roads in the West, as a whole, had not been such as to warrant at this time a general downward revision of rates on farm products, including live stock.

The Commission admitted there were many inequalities in the rate structures in certain sections of the West which should be corrected and said its conclusions were without prejudice to the determination of issues in its general investigation of the country's freight rates, as ordered by Congress.

#### New York Vegetable Growers to Meet at Geneva

The summer meeting of the New York State Vegetable Growers Association will be held at the Geneva Experiment Station on Wednesday, August 4. Inspection of the work underway on the control of insect pests and diseases of vegetable crops and tests of varieties and cultural methods will form the principal part of the program. Arrangements have also been made for a demonstration of tractors and other equipment for use in vegetable production.